

PUBLIC

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Further Information on UA 213/05 (ASA 31/068/2005, 19 August 2005) Fear for safety / legal concern

NEPAL Raj Kumar Pariyar (m), aged 25

Raj Kumar Pariyar was freed on 24 August following a second Supreme Court ruling that his detention was illegal and that he should be released immediately. However, lawyers and human rights defenders recognized members of the security forces dressed in plain clothes waiting outside the Supreme Court building and feared that he could be re-arrested once again. Raj Kumar Pariyar remained inside the court until representatives of Nepal's National Human Rights Commission arrived on the scene and escorted him to safety.

Raj Kumar Pariyar was first arrested by Royal Nepalese Army (RNA) personnel on 11 January 2004 and "disappeared" for nearly one year. During this time, he was reportedly tortured while in custody of the Jagadal battalion at Chhauni army barracks in Kathmandu.

On 10 August 2005, after a protracted legal battle, the Supreme Court ruled that his detention was illegal and that he should be released in the presence of the Kathmandu district court. When he was brought before the district court on 12 August, security forces personnel in plain clothes were waiting outside. As well as arresting Raj Kumar Pariyar, they also detained his father and three brothers, holding them overnight. Raj Kumar Pariyar was held at the Hanumandhoka district police station in Kathmandu.

No further action is requested from the Urgent Action network. Thanks to all who sent appeals.